



2622

35.C15292

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KEIJI OKINAKA, et al.

Application No.: 09/826,934

Filed: April 6, 2001

For: THRESHOLD MATRIX, AND
METHOD AND APPARATUS
OF REPRODUCING GRAY
LEVELS USING
THRESHOLD MATRIX

Group Art Unit: 2622

October 23, 2001

RECEIVED

OCT 29 2001

Technology Center 2000

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U. S. Patent No. 5,111,310
Europe 963105
Japan 2622429
Japan 2000-59626

B.E. Bayer, "An Optimum Method For Two-Level Rendition Of Continuous-Tone Pictures", Proceedings IEEE Int. Conf. Comm., Conference Record, pp. 26-11 to 26-15, 1973.

R.A. Ulichney, "Dithering with Blue Noise", Proceedings of the IEEE, Vol. 76, No. 1, pp. 56-79, January 1988.

T. Mitsa, et al., "Digital halftoning technique using a blue-noise mask",
Journal Optical Society Of America, A/Vol. 9, No. 11, pp. 1920-1929,
November 1992.

It is noted that U.S. Patent 5,111,310 is an English language counterpart of
Japan 2622429 and therefore, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English
language document is believed to be satisfied by the U.S. counterpart.

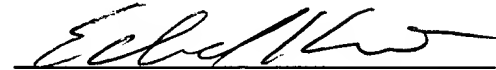
Likewise, Europe 963105 is an English language counterpart for Japan
2000-59626 and therefore, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English
document is believed to be satisfied by the European counterpart.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the
merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety
and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the
claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this
information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,




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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 35.C15292		APPLICATION NO. 09/826,934	
APPLICANT KEIJI OKINAKA, et al.					
FILING DATE April 6, 2001				GROUP 2622	



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	5,111,310	05/05/92	Parker et al.	358	456		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT		
963105	08/12/99	Europe			RECEIVED OCT 29 2001 Technology Center 2000		
2622429	04/04/97	Japan					
2000-59626	02/25/00	Japan					

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	B.E. Bayer, "An Optimum Method For Two-Level Rendition Of Continuous-Tone Pictures", Proceedings IEEE Int. Conf. Comm., Conference Record, pp. 26-11 to 26-15, 1973.
	R.A. Ulichney, "Dithering with Blue Noise", Proceedings of the IEEE, Vol. 76, No. 1, pp. 56-79, January 1988.
	T. Misa, et al., "Digital halftoning technique using a blue-noise mask", Journal Optical Society Of America, A/Vol. 9, No. 11, pp. 1920-1929, November 1992.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.